

(d) Necessary action to recover the amount will be taken on finalisation of ongoing disciplinary proceedings.

Maintenance of forts in Gujarat

1091. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) name of organisations/authorities who control and maintain forts in Gujarat;

(b) the authority which controls and maintains the temples constructed inside the forts;

(c) whether any temple inside the forts has been demolished;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether there is encroachment on the forts land; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to evict them from the clutches of unauthorised encroachers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The forts in Gujarat are controlled and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India, the Gujarat Government, and the Army authorities. The forts of defence land are under the control of the Army authorities.

(b) and (d) Temples located inside forts under the charge of Army/ Archaeological Survey of India are maintained by them or by the concerned temple trusts. No temple within the forts under the control of the Army authorities has been demolished. However, the temple in Bhuj fort was partially damaged due to earthquake on 26th January, 2001.

(e) and (f) Some encroachments have taken place in Ahmedabad and Pavagadh forts under the control of the Army/Archaeological Survey of India. They have taken steps for removal of the encroachments under due process of Law. The information about the forts under the control of the State Government is not available.